NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (Agricultural Warehouse.)—ALLEN PUTNAM, EDITOR.

VOL. XXI.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 1, 1843. [NO. 35.

N. E. FARMER.

FIFTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

Subject, Fruits and Fruit Trees.

[Continued.]

Mr George Pierce, of West Cambridge, said he knew no effectual mode of destroying the borer.

In 1835 or '36, Capt. Charles Wellington topped an orchard of Russet trees, in March; in June he grafted over; let both grafts and suckers grow the first year: second year, cut one scion from every stock: in the third year from that time, the orchard produced 100 bbls. of apples. It is now a handsome orchard: not a tree has failed, and only one looks sickly.

The whole of the limbs were cut when the trees were topped, but not many limbs were cut at the trunk. These trees were from 8 to 15 inches through. The orchard was not very old. The bark was smooth and the trees were thrifty. The ground was generally in tillage.

Mr Pierce would always keep the ground loose around trees. In 1836, when he first came to the place on which he now lives, there were seven peach trees on it. Three of the trees that year had fruit on them; he waited for it to ripen until after the snow came—but patience waited in vain. The next year a man spent a day in budding these trees;—only two buds lived. The next fall these bore good fruit, and the year following he got from them many dozens of peaches, which he sold at $1 per dozen; and the same the two following years. The peaches came from the same branches which in '36 bore little unripened things. It is a late variety—the Royal George. Cultivation of the soil and care of the tree wrought the change.

The yellows have not troubled him—the borer is the only enemy he has to contend with—and for these he has not found ashes a perfect remedy.

For an early peach, Coolidge's Favorite he thinks best.

The most effectual wash is that which he applies to the ground—that is, good cultivation. By this he can keep the bark so smooth that lice and vermin can hardly crawl up.

All worms poison and stunt trees: good cultivation helps the trees to resist these evil effects.

An old peach tree may have a pruning in April. But a young, vigorous tree should have its branches thinned out in August. Heading down has been a good operation with many cultivators, but he has not tried it. The peach will continue vigorous and fruitful here more than 6 or 7 years, though the statement made last week may be true in regard to New Jersey.

To get good peaches, you must thin out the fruit when it is not more than half grown. He failed to get as good fruit last year as before, by not thinning enough;—he disliked to take off the peaches, which would bring him a dollar per dozen, and let this reluctance spoil the whole.

The summer before the last, in a very dry time, he dug around twelve trees—seven peaches, and five Bartlett pears;—dug a circle 16 feet in diameter, as deep as the roots would let him go; then covered the ground with pea vines, &c.; then watered freely. The drooping trees revived in a day, and the fruit was such as paid him well for his expense.

He has been accustomed to transplanting trees for thirty years, and does not remember that he has ever lost one by the operation. Thinks that the stock in some instances, may have some effect as well as the scion upon the quality of the fruit.

PLUM TREE AND ITS ENEMIES.

To the Editor of the New England Farmer:

Dear Sir—As it appears that many persons suppose that all, or nearly all, the varieties of the Plum, are subject to the attack of insects, and to the knots and excresences caused thereby, and as there are others who are not sufficiently conversant with the subject to discriminate between those which are, and those which are not subject to such injuries, we now send you the names of the most valuable varieties that are never thus attacked, or very rarely so. Furthermore, we have established a *discriminative guide*, embracing a large number of varieties, which is this:—*The varieties of American origin, are not subject to attacks of the insect;* and this rule holds true, with but a single exception, that we are aware of, and that one is the Red Gage; and so universal is this exemption, that if we did not know that the Red Gage originated at this establishment, we should not be very ready to believe it a native variety. Every cultivator of plum trees, we presume, is aware that the Late Purple Damson, which ripens in October, is more subject to attacks of the insect referred to, than any other variety; and yet we have a native seedling from it, scarcely differing at all from the parent in the appearance of the tree or in fruit, which never is attacked thereby. The Green Gage, or Grosse Reine Claude, is liable to attack, but the three new varieties of the Gage in the annexed list, which were originated by Wm. Prince, although seedlings of the preceding one, are not subject to such attacks.

Perhaps we may hereafter send you our views as to a discrimination between the European varieties that are, and those that are not subject to the depredations of this insect, and comprising a most singular deduction from affinity in the sap; but at this moment we will simply state that the varieties of the Dame Aubert or *True* Magnum Bonum, are exempt, or nearly so, whereas many of the varieties that are the progeny of the original Damascus, or Damas, or Damson plum, (these three names being synonymous,) are subject thereto.

We notice in an editorial article in your last number, you quote from Mr Forman's work, that "Where there are no plum trees, there are no plum tree insects"!!?—and you also quote his recommendation that all the plum trees be burnt, in order to annihilate the insects!—but, most unfortunately for his sovereign remedy, yet luckily withal for the poor insects, they find the Morello cherry quite as congenial to their taste, and they also frequent the Bird Cherry, or Prunus virginiana.

Yours, very respectfully,

WM. R. PRINCE & CO.

Lin. Bot. Garden and Nurseries,
Flushing, Feb. 20, 1843.

The following are the varieties of Plums above referred to, as not liable to attacks of insects:

American Yellow Gage;
Prince's Imperial do.
Prince's Green do.
Prince's Yellow do.
Purple or Violet do.
Washington (Bolmer's;)
Brevoort's Purple Washington;
Coe's Golden Drop;
Corse's plums—several varieties;
Diamond;
Duane's Purple French;
Blue Imperatrice;
Elfrey, or French Copper;
Goliah;
Huling's Superb;
Italian Damask;
Large Early Black Montreuil;
Large Black Imperial;
Lewistown Egg;
Yellow Egg, or Magnum Bonum;
White Egg, or Imperial;
Yellow Imperial;
Red Egg, or Dame Auber a Rouge;
Prince's Large Summer Egg—new;
Nectarine;
Smith's Orleans;
Italian Prune;
Tomlinson's Charlotte;
Miller's Spanish;
Red St. Martin, or Coe's Fine Red;
Imperial Milan—and some others not recollected at this moment.

☞We should be happy to learn from the fruit-growers *here* whether their experience in Massachusetts will show that this classification by Messrs. Prince & Co., is of any value as a guide in this part of the country.—Ed. N. E. F.

Miseries of Indolence.—None so little enjoy life, and are such a burden to themselves, as those who have nothing to do. The active only have the true relish of life. He who knows not what it is to labor, knows not what it is to enjoy. It is exertion that renders rest delightful and sleep sweet and undisturbed. That the happiness of life depends on the regular prosecution of some laudable business, which engages, helps and enlivens all his powers, let those bear witness who, after spending years in active usefulness, have sought enjoyment in retirement.—*Selected.*

Man never was intended to be idle. Inactivity frustrates the very design of his creation; whereas an active life is the best guardian of virtue, and the greatest preservative of health.

For the N. E. Farmer.

TURNIPS AND OIL-CAKE FOR FATTENING CATTLE.

Mr Editor—Dear Sir—I enclose an article on the turnip, and another on the use of oil-cake for fattening cattle and as an article of food. They are both from the pen of the same gentleman who furnished the article on "Pigeon Manure," in your journal of Feb. 8.

I have always thought favorably of the turnip culture, as a highly profitable article of food; but from its very bulky and diluted nature, I have always doubted its fattening qualities, except only and when combined with other substances of a more nutritious kind. Anon.

Effects of Turnip Feed in England.—By an Englishman.

In the winter of 1833, I had occasion to visit for a few days, a little village in the vicinity of Rotherham, Yorkshire, but was soon glad to leave, for the reason that the meat—mutton and beef—milk and butter—were but so many preparations of turnips; and I was unable to obtain any other. However, before leaving, I happened to meet with one of the farmers of the place, and inquiring why they fed all their cattle on turnips, his answer was, "The fact is, we are too poor to give them any thing else; hay is up, and the turnips are the cheapest." I had the curiosity to look at this gentleman's sheep, and a more miserable looking flock I never saw. Sheep will never fatten on turnips, and a turnipy taste is not more the milkman's than the farmer's enemy. They have but little or no bitter principle, and in their nutritive qualities bear no comparison with the carrot.

If further testimony is required, take that of Mr Sinclair, gardener to the Duke of Bedford, whose observations are to be found in that "invaluable work," as it is termed by agriculturists, the "Hortus Gramincus Woburnensis."

As to Mr Stephens' assertions, that the stock in Scotland is fed upon turnips from November to January, and that it is not till February that such feeding seems to produce any improvement, they are true so far as they go—but let them not lead us into error; for farmers, not unlike physicians, not knowing more than half the facts of the case, although knowing *them* well, may still go wrong. The true exposition of the matter is this: Cattle are fed from November to the latter end of January or middle of February—or, in other words, till the young grass begins to spring—when they improve wonderfully, if you like—and yet no wonder, considering how long they have been kept upon "short commons."

I have seen many a flock of sheep, but never saw one in the middle of a turnip field, that was not penned there. The turnip is always forsaken for the miscea herbage on the bank side, of which there is always more or less in England, even in the depth of winter.

Let it be remembered, also, that there is scarcely any *bitter extract* in turnips, which is as necessary to cattle as salt is to us; and without which, as Sinclair says, they must inevitably become diseased and die.

Oil for Fattening.

Corroborative of Mr Prince's communication, in your paper of last week, on feeding cattle with oil, it is so universally used in England in the form of oil cake, that to me it appeared strange that there should be any doubt about its powers, or propriety of its use, in this country. In fact, I have so repeatedly heard farmers in England talk of exhibiting it in preference to any thing else, and never having discovered any unpleasant flavor in the meat so fed, I feel confident, in recommending it to the farmers of America, that a trial is all that is wanting to success. As to any scruples about eating oil-fed meat, they must vanish before the fact, that fat meat is but little else than oil itself.

H. St. Aubyn.

☞We are happy to receive these communications from one who for many years has been an observer of English farming. In our own remarks upon the effects of feeding upon turnips in Scotland, as described by Henry Stephens, in the Book of the Farm, we did not intend that the inference should be made that *no other* food was given in connection with them: straw is daily given to the animals as well as turnips. The first of February, which we named as the time when the turnip-fed animals begin to thrive, is not, we think, *in Scotland*, the time when their animals begin to get a supply of fresh spring feed, though it may be in the south and centre of England. We have not Mr Stephens' book at hand, or we would quote what he says as to the time when their animals are turned out to pasture. If we remember correctly, it is about the first of April.

The question in regard to the value of root culture in this country, we consider so far an open one, that we are very willing to insert facts, experiments and observations that make either for or against the general and extensive cultivation of roots.

Should it be found true, as it doubtless is, that roots do not contain enough of bitter extract to make them a sufficient food for fattening when used alone, it will not follow that they are not valuable in connection with hay, straw, corn-stalks, &c.—Ed. N. E. F.

For the N. E. Farmer.

FEEDING HERBIVOROUS ANIMALS WITH OIL.

Can it conduce to the health of herbivorous animals, Mr Editor, to be fed with oil? Why, it is a disputed question, to say the least of it, whether oil is the *best* food, even for *man*—in America or in Greenland. Yet man is claimed to be, in part, an eater—constitutionally so—of substances containing oil.

I have been led to make these remarks, or rather queries, by the statements of Mr Prince, of Jamaica Plain, in your paper, concerning the use of oil in fattening cattle. Reasoning *a priori*, as well as from *analogy*, I am led to oppose such a practice. That cattle may be fattened faster in this way, I have no doubt: but that they are rendered *sickly* in the same proportion, is equally certain. Indeed, the statement of the English butcher, cited by Mr Prince, about bleeding once or twice for a week or ten days before slaughtering an animal fed in this way, confirms the view I take of the subject. Why would a physician bleed a man under such circumstances? Would it not be to reduce the inflammatory or febrile action?

Few persons rejoice more than I, at every *real improvement* in the great and important department of philanthropy of which your paper is so worthy a representative; and this is one reason why I occasionally drop a thought or two, for the consideration of those whom it may concern. Besides, no person, as I suppose, would prefer to eat diseased flesh meat, merely because it is a little fatter, or—being a little nearer to a state of putridity when killed—is a little more tender.

Yours, WM. A. ALCOTT.

Dedham, Feb. 20, 1843.

☞Dr. Alcott seems, in his opening questions, to imply, that oil is an animal product only—and that it therefore must be unsuited to nourish herbacious animals. The oils from flaxseed, from the olive, from Indian corn, &c. &c., are purely *vegetable* products, and therefore there might be propriety in arguing their unfitness to be the food of carnivorous beasts,—but none, that we can see, in hinting that they are improper for such animals as find corn and flaxseed a natural and wholesome food. Our correspondent is usually awake; but he was apparently napping, when he thought to make a valid argument against the use of *linseed oil* to feed *herbaceous animals*. The oil of the herb is their natural food;—not the oil *alone* and uncombined, it is true—but yet *the oil of vegetables*, is the natural food of the ox. It was *such* oil—linseed oil—that Mr Prince used. Were the Greenlander's train oil, mutton tallow, or hog's lard recommended, there would be pertinence in our correspondent's remarks; but we see none now; nor can we see a reason for inferring that *vegetable oil* will naturally give disease to an animal whose natural food is vegetable.

We will welcome an explanation or rejoinder.—Ed. N. E. F.

Tight Dressing.—It is not tight lacing alone which is objectionable, but *all* lacing. In our dress, not a pound weight—no, not an ounce, were it possible to avoid it, should ever rest on the surface of the human body. Every where should the skin and muscles have full, free and perfect motion. * * Have you not seen—some of the oldest of you, at least—here and there, a grandmother of the last century? Then you have seen chests and the representatives of chests such as are seldom to be found now. It is impossible for females to be degenerating as females now are, from errors in dress and other multiplied infractions of God's natural law, and the whole race not suffer by it. We are all deteriorating, at least physically; and tight dressing is one of the causes. And if consumption and scrofula, and heart, stomach, and liver diseases are increasing with rapid strides among us, this, too, is the result, in no trifling degree, of the same cause. The mother, in consequence of a feeble organization, and especially a slender and feeble chest, transmits to her children a tendency to the same state. Mothers, then, be admonished. The world rests, as it were, on you. Shall it or shall it not rise? It has fallen by woman, so we are told; if ever raised again, it can hardly be raised without her influence.—*Dr. Alcott's Teacher of Health.*

To find one who has passed through life without sorrow, you must find one incapable of love or hatred, of hope or fear; one who hath no memory of the past, and no thought of the future—one that hath no sympathy with humanity, and no feeling in common with the rest of the species.

MASS. SOCIETY FOR PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE.

Report on Farms.

The Committee appointed by the Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, to award the premiums offered for the best cultivated farms, have attended to that duty, and ask to report as follows:

In offering these very liberal premiums, the Trustees entertained a hope that they might give a new stimulus to improvement and more effectually awaken the attention of farmers to their true interest. With a view of relieving the claimants for premiums of the trouble of making out their statements in writing, of the condition of their respective farms, which is by many considered an irksome task, your committee appointed a competent agent, with instructions to call upon each applicant, and to furnish him with all needed facilities in giving his answers to the questions proposed by the Trustees. This duty has been ably and satisfactorily executed by the very worthy and intelligent gentleman appointed for that purpose, accompanied, in a few cases by one of your committee.

The number of applicants for the Society's premiums, has, notwithstanding, been small. Still, your committee believe that the liberal offers of the Society have been instrumental, in no inconsiderable degree, in bringing about an improved state of husbandry; and they take pleasure in stating their increased confidence in the beneficial results that may be derived from this mode of appropriating so considerable a portion of the Society's funds. Public attention, we are confident, has been in some measure aroused, and many farmers, your committee believe, relying upon the continued offers of the Society's premiums, are now striving to put their farms in a condition that will not only enable them hereafter to become successful competitors for these premiums, but calculated to give them a higher stand in the scale of usefulness among those by whom their good examples may be witnessed.

Our progress in agricultural improvement, compared with that of some other countries, has hitherto been slow. Wealth has cautiously yielded her treasures for its encouragement, and the efforts of science, which have been so generously tendered by the scientific friends of agriculture, have hitherto been too generally viewed with a distrustful eye. The opulent and enlightened advocates for agricultural improvement are, however, now beginning to perceive that the business of farming affords not only a safe, but profitable investment of capital, and that the profession of the farmer is as much benefited by the light of science as any other profession.

It was not till after the middle of the last century that English capitalists discovered that capital invested in the improvement of their estates made as ample returns of profit as that invested in stocks or merchandise. From that time the light of science and the patronage of the wealthy have united in furnishing the means of increased production, and the labors of the husbandman have been cheered by the smiles of an enlightened and approving public, till the profession of agriculture has become the broadest avenue to wealth and distinction.

In England, improvements in agriculture are to be attributed mainly to liberal outlays by the rich owners of extensive landed estates. Finding that their tenants could produce from their worn-out and impoverished lands but little more than enough to furnish themselves with a miserable, scanty subsistence, the landlord was induced to resort to various schemes and to invest large sums of money in the improvement of his estate. By these means he has greatly benefited the condition of his tenants, and at the same time received an ample remuneration for his outlay.

In this country, lands are more equally distributed and held by a different tenure. The farmer here is generally the owner of the acres which he occupies, with no capital upon which he can draw for improvement, but his own bone and muscle,—no means to help him on, but his own personal energies. His efforts must principally be made to contribute to the relief of his immediate necessities. His progress in improvement must, therefore, necessarily be at a moderate pace. It is to men of wealth, who can be satisfied with future and more distant results, that we must in a great measure look for rapid advances in this great and important work.

In awarding the Society's premiums, your committee have, however, paid due regard to economy of expenditure in the management of their farms, by the respective applicants. They are not, however, of the opinion that the production of the greatest crop at the least expense, will, in all cases, afford a correct test of the farmer's merit, as this might result in rewarding the owner of a soil naturally rich, that required but small outlay in labor and manure to render it productive, to the exclusion of his neighbor, who, though he may have expended more and obtained a lighter crop upon his less fertile grounds, has nevertheless by enterprise and skill in managing and fertilizing his fields, given a lesson to the public of much more value than is afforded by the economy of his more fortunate neighbor. Your committee have endeavored to select such of the applicants for consideration and notice, as, under all the circumstances, have done most to advance the interests of agriculture, and, at the same time, have kept within the bounds of reasonable economy.

The farm of Mr Morgan, of Palmer, exhibits an instance of energetic and successful culture, which can hardly find a parallel. Within the short space of three years, with no extravagant outlay of money, he, has, in a great measure by his skill, industry and perseverance, so improved an impoverished and worn out farm, as to increase its produce more than four fold. In the language of the intelligent agent who carefully inspected this farm, "the changes which have been effected on this reduced and rough farm, in three years, are truly astonishing, and far exceed any thing ordinarily witnessed in improvements." Any one, on reading the account of the produce of this farm, given by Mr Morgan, and fully corroborated by the agent, must be convinced that capital *may be* so invested in agricultural improvements as not only to yield a certain, but very liberal profit.

Mr Morgan's method of renovating his "*bound down*" grass grounds, is worthy of notice by all farmers. The process of simply scarifying the surface of old exhausted grass fields, has long been known and practiced; but the addition of a dressing of compost, prepared in the manner prescribed by him, with a liberal sowing of grass seed, are improvements upon the old process, which the committee know, from practical results, to be attended with all the benefit ascribed to them by Mr Morgan. The advantage of stirring the roots of the grass in our *bound out* fields, is manifest from the fact that a grass field simply turned over with the plow, in very narrow furrow slices, in the fall of the year, and smoothed down with the harrow and roller, will, without the aid of manure or grass seed, more than double the crop of hay. The grass springs up from between the furrow-slices with renewed vigor, and at the season of mowing, will nearly have covered the ground with a crop that amply repays the labor of plowing, while this process of turning over, is attended with a very considerable improvement of the soil.

The condition of his manure when applied, and the manner of applying it by Mr Morgan, we have no doubt will be approved by all judicious and skillful farmers. All manures should be applied in such state and in such manner as to afford the greatest quantity of nourishment to the growing crops, and, at the same time, be the least liable to waste, from atmospheric influences. Animal manures and all animal substances applied to the surface in a green or undecayed state, suffer very considerable loss of their enriching properties. If plowed in deep, it is not in a condition to furnish immediate nourishment to the grain or grass crops, either the roots will not reach it, or, if they do, it will not be in a fit state to be taken up by them. The objections to placing manure upon the surface are obviated, by first placing it in contact with some substance, that will take up and retain its enriching matters, until they may be wanted by the growing crop. This may be effected in the compost heap.

Mr Morgan has not given us his method, nor the time allowed by him, for making his compost. On this subject we will take the liberty of suggesting to him, and all farmers, the expediency of always keeping a year's stock of stable manure on hand for the new year's use. This will give ample time to form his compost, and if properly mixed with peat or swamp muck, or any vegetable mould, two loads to one of stable manure, and occasionally overhauled during the summer preceding its use, it may then be applied to the surface of his fields, and if mixed with the top soil with the harrow, or lightly covered with the plow, there will be no risk of losing any of its valuable properties.

The mode of plowing and cultivating green-sward, adopted by Mr Morgan, is now generally approved by our best farmers. Some fifteen years ago, your committee gave the first practical demonstration of the vast importance of this system of culture in a country where the lands were fast approaching to steriity by an injudicious use of the plow. They have since endeavored, at all suitable times, to impress upon farmers, by precept as well as example, its great importance in renovating their worn out fields; and they are gratified in finding it to be of so generally acknowledged utility.*

The course pursued by Mr Morgan in reclaiming his low meadow grounds, the committee do not entirely approve. They are aware that some farmers still hold to the practice of covering their meadows with a coat of gravel for the purpose of killing the wild grasses and giving firmness to the surface. There can be no doubt that by putting on a sufficient quantity of manure to enrich this covering of unproductive material, these low meadows may be made to produce large crops of grass

*See N. E. Farmer, vol. ix. p. 266.

for a few years. But the lowland, sour grasses and coarse herbage, though checked in their growth for a season, are by no means exterminated, and will, in due time, make their appearance, and flourish with a vigor increased by the very means which have been used to destroy them. Like all ineffectual attempts to overcome haunts of vice, they serve only to weaken the power of resistance, and the unsubdued prosperity, flushed with the pride of victory, returns to the attack with redoubled force. The plan now generally pursued by our best farmers, after thorough and perfect draining, is to cultivate the surface a year or two with some hoed crop, by which every species of the natural grasses may be eradicated, and then, at the time of sowing the grass seed, to top dress with compost made of stable manure mixed with a portion of loam or subsoil. By this means, the softest meadows will in a few years become sufficiently firm to allow loaded teams to pass over them without injury. This course, it is believed, will be found to be more *economical* than graveling. Besides, the labor and expense of plowing or turning over with the bog hoe, which must be ultimately resorted to, in case of graveling, will be found to be much greater and more difficult after graveling than before.

Mr Morgan says he first cut a ditch around the border of his meadow. This is well. But he has omitted to state whether this is an open or covered drain. Our agricultural ancestors had strong objections to ditchings their low meadows—particularly to cutting ditches near the borders of the upland—for the alleged reason, that these open drains received and conducted off into the brooks and rivers, the enriching matter which is occasionally brought down by washing rains from the surrounding uplands. This argument against draining, it must be allowed, is not without some weight, especially where meadows are surrounded by rich and extensive uplands that are liable to be washed by heavy rains. This objection is at once obviated by substituting *covered* for *open* drains. Covered drains are quite as effectual as open ones, in intercepting the cold springs that flow in from the uplands, (which are the great source of injury to the low grounds,) while the fertilizing matters, which are washed from the uplands, are deposited and allowed to remain upon the surface of the meadow. These covered drains, if rightly constructed, will not be liable to become choaked.

A few hints upon the location and construction of covered drains, may not be useless. After cutting an open ditch through the centre of the meadow, the drain intended to be covered, should be opened parallel with the line of the upland, and as near to it as the effects of a redundancy of water may be perceived. This should be dug quite three feet deep, where it is intended ever to use the plow, and two feet in width. Common stones from the field, as near eight inches in width and thickness, as may be, are then placed at the bottom of the drain, on each side, and these covered with slate or common flat stones from the field, thus leaving an open space for the passage of the water, of about eight inches square. Over these is to be placed a layer of small stones, from eight inches to a foot in thickness; then a covering of tough sods from the meadow, grass side down, or a layer of coarse hay, straw, shavings, or fine brush, to prevent the dirt from working into the drain before the covering of earth becomes settled, and the whole to be covered and leveled off with the earth taken from the drain. From this, side drain to the centre open ditch; cross-covered drains are then to be made, at such distances apart as the state of the land and quantity of water to be carried off, may require. The meadow is now put in a condition to be drained, and after remaining a year or two to settle, operations may be commenced, in such way as the farmer's judgment may dictate.

There is a species of soil existing in greater or less portions upon almost every farm, which would be particularly benefited by under-ground draining. This is a kind of land situated at the foot of high lands on one or two sides—not peat or swamp land, but having a thin vegetable mould on the surface, and a hard pan of gravelly clay beneath. These are supplied with a redundancy of water, which, in the early part of the season breaks from springs fed by the highlands, and remains upon it till near midsummer, when it bakes and becomes hard, producing nothing but a small crop of worthless sour grass. Such lands are neither fit for grazing, mowing or tillage. Plowing and manuring, to any extent, are of no avail, till the redundant waters are taken off. This species of land would derive peculiar benefit from covered drains at the border, and by the aid of the subsoil plow, (that wonderful improver of all soils,) to break up the hard pan beneath the surface, it may be made exceedingly productive, and, in most cases, much more valuable than peat or swamp lands.

Taking into view the great improvements made by Mr Morgan, his spacious barns and sheds, stored with hay and grain, his ample means for making and saving manure, and judicious mode of applying it, his numerous acres of renovated ground, clothed with luxuriant crops, and his eight hundred rods of stone wall, and all brought about in the short space of three years, the committee have no hesitation in recommending that the first premium of *Two Hundred Dollars*, be awarded to Mr Morgan for the best cultivated farm.

The claims of Mr Elias J. Werden, of Richmond, and Mr Ebenezer Richardson, of Pepperell, were considered so nearly balanced, that your committee having doubts to which the preference should be given, concluded to recommend that the second and third premiums offered, be divided between them. Both have strong claims, on the score of economy in the management of their respective farms, and both merit equal praise for their enterprise and great personal industry. In irrigating his grass lands, Mr Werden has given an example of the beneficial effects of this much neglected means of increasing the crop of hay, and worthy the notice of farmers. Much has been done in other countries in redeeming vast tracts of unproductive and worthless land from a state of utter barrenness to great fertility, by no other means than the use of water. As much may, no doubt, be done in this country, if our farmers would but engage earnestly in the business. Not a stream that winds its way among our hills and valleys, but what may be made, in a greater or less degree, to increase the product of our farms. How many of these sources of fertility are suffered to pass by, with as little benefit to our lands as the winds that blow over them, leaving nothing on their way, but often allowed to carry off much of the natural richness of the soil. Besides these, many of our farms have small ponds or reservoirs of water, which overflow in the spring of the year, and may be made to contribute greatly to increase the crop of grass.

It requires but little skill, and very little expense, to avail ourselves of this means of fertility. With no instrument but his own eye, the farmer may judge with almost unerring certainty, how to conduct the water upon his ground with the greatest advantage. An important principle to be known in irrigation, is the necessity of keeping the water constantly moving. That it will be useful only on declivities, where its movement will be subject to no interruption. Whenever motion ceases, injurious effects will commence. Stagnant water, on grounds however elevated, will invariably destroy the better kind of grasses and introduce the worst; as soon, therefore, as it reaches the foot of the declivity, it should be collected in drains and carried off. Artificial dams may be constructed, when it is necessary to raise a head of water sufficiently high to draw it off upon the adjacent grounds—or a wind power may be used to pump water into reservoirs.

While Mr Werden has given us a good practical lesson upon irrigation, Mr Richardson has given one equally valuable upon reclaiming swamps and low grounds. His plan is one which is most generally approved. In the first place, he drains perfectly, and then with the bog-hoe thoroughly eradicates all the coarse herbage and wild grasses. We highly approve his plan of mixing a small quantity of loam with the top soil of his meadows before laying to grass. In all peaty soils there is a deficiency of silicious and mineral matters. The silicates contained in these substances are dissolved and taken up by the roots of the grass, and give strength, firmness and nutrition to the growing crop. Hence the necessity of applying a small portion of loam or subsoil, not for the purpose of burying the meadow, but to give strength to the plants. These are best applied, we think, by mixing them with the compost that is used for a top-dressing at the time of sowing grain or grass seed.

That both of these gentlemen have some defects in their system of managing their farms, they will no doubt readily admit. They are both without cellars under their barns, to receive the manure from the stables. This is a great oversight. No farmer should be without this useful and economical appendage to good husbandry. Stable manure must be subject to great loss by exposure to the winds, frosts and rains of winter.

There is, however, a good degree of skill and great industry and economy, evinced by both of these claimants, and your committee take pleasure in recommending that to each of them be awarded the sum of $125—being together the amount of the second and third premiums.

Mr Abbot, of Westford, is entitled to much praise for his enterprise and energetic labors in subduing and renovating his rough grounds, as well as in draining and reclaiming his peat meadows—though we cannot entirely approve his plan of covering his meadows, nor of the material used for the purpose. We never can be made to believe in the expediency of covering the best soil with the poorest, with a view of increasing its fertility. Mr Abbot has, however, given a very useful example in the important science of draining. He has began a good work. His labor and expenditure in making the rough places smooth, have been, we have no doubt, judiciously bestowed, and will in due time yield

him a handsome reward. The committee recommend that the fourth premium of $75 be awarded to Mr Abbot.

The farm of Mr Harrison, of North Adams, possesses great natural advantages, and is well cultivated. His buildings are convenient and well located. The preparations for making manure are extensive, and so calculated as to enable him to preserve its whole energies. The objection raised by him against irrigating his grass lands, is without foundation. If the water be taken off at a suitable length of time before mowing, he may be assured that no injury will result to his grass. It will not be made sour by the water. The committee recommend that the fifth premium of $50 be awarded to Mr Harrison.

To Mr Sexton, of Stockbridge, who appears to be a devoted friend to the cause of agriculture, whose system of husbandry is generally good, though defective in some of its parts, the committee recommend that the sixth premium of $25 be awarded.

Respectfully submitted by the Committee.

E. PHINNEY, *Chairman.*

[The statements of the successful competitors for the State Society's premiums we have not room for in this number. They will be given in our next.]

For the New England Farmer.

YANKEE OXEN AND OX-DRIVERS.

Mr Editor—We often hear of the skill of the Spaniard in catching, by the use of the lasso, the wild horse, and easily breaking and taming him; of the Arab's noble horsemanship; the power and fleetness of his steed, and his attachment to him—and again of those Jehus who drive four, six or eight in hand.

The Yankee ox-driver is no less a character than any of these, and his oxen not less remarkable in their performance, it is believed, than the horse. They often pet and almost caress them while calves—yoke them when yearlings—at two years old they will work on the lead—at three, can manage a cart—at four, will *canter* into a barn with a load of hay. From this on, a yoke of them is a pretty good team for almost any purpose. But generally they do not break them so young.

It is interesting to see these teams coming down mountains, or rough, precipitous winding roads—the descent often equal to ten degrees—with a heavy load, drawn by three or four yokes. The hind cattle are not heavy, perhaps, but "hold well." The moment the wheels reach the summit, the driver, placing himself at the head of the hind near ox, gives them the word for holding back. With his long whip or long whip-stock, his leaders are kept in line. Down they go, the hind cattle holding their noses up, or out, and half the time seated almost on their very haunches. The load presses—the driver's voice is heard, calling out louder and louder, "Back-whoa—back-whoa—back—slowly, slowly—hold-hard." There is a sudden turn—a precipice, perhaps, on the opposite side, lower down. The load pushes them hard—the driver now hits them slightly over the head, with the butt of his whip, loudly calling to them to "hold-back." The cattle brace themselves with their fore legs; and now fairly seated on their haunches, hold on. It is in vain—they cannot hold it; the load slides them rapidly along. Now it is that the driver shows his skill, and the good training of his team; for without both, all is lost.

His long whip is flourished in the direction of his leaders: "Come-whoa, come-whoa-haw, go-long." They have straightened their chain—are in full trot; bringing the cart fearfully and rapidly around the turn of the road. Again, at the word, the leaders' chain is slacked; the hind cattle are doing their best—and between sliding and running, come safe to the bottom of the hill.

On one occasion, a team coming down one of these hills, the near ox unyoked. Still the driver managed, by keeping the leaders on the "haw," their chain straightened, and heads partly across the road, to let his load down in safety.

It is interesting to see an old pair of hind or wheel cattle, used to it, descending hills with a sled. If unable to hold the load in the snow path, at the word of the driver, the near ox will immediately spring out of the path, pulling the near runner after him, though the crust through which he plunges, cuts his legs at every step.

Have you ever seen fifty or an hundred yokes of these oxen with their drivers, drawing a large building? How they will go down to their work! Scratching, pulling, down on their knees, and up, and down again—knocking their horns, and tearing the very earth beneath them, as if they would go through their yokes. I "guess" the building has to come.

A real Yankee always likes to see a good pair of oxen pull. A Yankee friend of mine, not long since remarked on such an occasion, where we were lookers on, "Well, I had rather see such a pull as those oxen made, than to see Fanny Ellsler dance!"

The breed of New England working oxen have had a good deal of practice. The Puritan followed them two hundred years ago. Attached to his plow, they broke the virgin soil; they hauled his wood from the forest and his harvests from the field. They have always been the principal and almost only team for the farm, in New England. Hence the great docility of the present race—their fine action, their power of endurance, and their faithfulness at their work.

They are undoubtedly the finest race of working oxen in the world. But the committee on working cattle at Albany, last fall, I see by the Cultivator, seem to think it necessary to cross them with *foreign stock.* Of *course*—by all means! Nothing purely *American* would do—at least it would seem so, in the meridian of Albany. Daniel Webster stated that he saw but *one* yoke of working oxen in travelling through England and Scotland. There are some worked, however. A neighbor of mine, an Englishman, tells me he saw nine yokes of oxen, belonging to Lord Middleton, stalled with eighty bushels of barley!

But I have spoken more of Yankee oxen than of their drivers. I will say something more of the latter hereafter. So look out for a story of the "Yankee Ox-Driver"—and a true story it shall be.

Feb. 15, 1843. P.

☞Send it along.—Ed.

Poisoned Sheep.—It is said that a gill of melted lard poured down the throat of a sheep poisoned by eating laurel, a shrub that retains its foliage in winter, and grows abundantly on the margin of some of our streams and mountainous districts, will effect a certain cure.

DISEASES IN PEACH TREES.

Formerly, peaches were raised in abundance in this county; but of late years they are very rarely found. The peach trees in this region become diseased, and soon decay and die.

In one of our exchange papers, we find the following application recommended by a gentleman in Maryland, who has successfully used the same. The application to the trees consists of salt and saltpetre combined, in the proportion of one part of saltpetre to eight parts of salt; one half pound of this mixture to a tree seven years old and upward, to be applied upon the surface of the ground around, and in immediate contact with the trunk of the tree; this will destroy the worm; but, to more effectually preserve the trees, I also sow this mixture over my orchard, at the rate of two bushels to the acre. The size of the fruit is increased, and the flavor very greatly improved, the worm destroyed, and the yellows prevented. This is a remedy in the reach of every farmer, who has trees, and is well worthy of a trial.—*Southern Agricult.*

From the Albany Cultivator.

USEFUL RECIPES.

To Make Brilliant Paint without Oil or Lead.—Take clean lumps of well burnt lime, about six quarts—slack the same in hot water. After the lime has become well slacked, add one pound of whiting, one pound sugar, three pints rice flour made into a jelly, and one pound of clean glue dissolved. Have over the fire five gallons of water, into which put five quarts rock salt. The same should be dissolved entirely, by boiling and skimming clean. Pour a sufficient quantity of this upon the lime and other ingredients, to make it the proper thickness to spread well with a paint brush. If made entirely free from lumps, it will look nearly as well as oil paint.

Another.—To make a paint for roofs of buildings which will render them fire-proof, slack your lime as before directed, and the same quantity; then add to the same one pound of alum, half pound of copperas, and three and a quarter pounds potash; the last to be added gradually. Then add four quarts fine sand or hard wood ashes, and coloring matter to suit the fancy. Its look will be better than paint, and be nearly as lasting as slate, and fire-proof. It must be put on hot. It should be made the proper consistency, by adding the salt water, as above directed. Old shingles must be first cleaned with a stiff broom, when this composition may be applied. It will stop leaks, prevent moss from growing, render wood incombustible, and last many years. A Reader.

Clinton, Mich.

Town of Hull.—Since the stupendous influence of this place upon the politics of our State has given it a renown as wide-spread as the political papers, every thing pertaining to it is regarded with absorbing interest. The following chronological item records an important event in its history:

"1644. Nantasket, having now nearly twenty houses and a minister, was, by the General Court, named Hull."—*Gov. Winthrop's Journal.*

It appears by this date that Hull is 199 years old—and if it has gained but little, it has not, like other *empires,* suffered much, from the lapse of two hundred years. It now turns out, in cases of strongly contested elections, about 14 voters.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1843.

SIXTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE.

The President, Mr King, in the chair.

A communication from H. K. Oliver, Esq., of Salem, was read, signifying his willingness to lecture to the meeting at some future evening, upon the Honey Bee.

The thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr Oliver, and Mr King was requested to invite him to come two weeks from this evening.

Subject for discussion—Mineral and Concentrated Manures.

Dr. C. T. Jackson said, that before entering upon the regular subject, he would give by apparatus, an illustration of the mode by which sap ascends. The process is called endosmose, or the passage of liquids through membranes. By taking bladder or gold-beater's skin, he showed that liquids heavier than water will be made to ascend in a tube to the height of 30 feet or more. Sap vessels have diaphrams, and by means of these they send up sap by an impulsive force—not by mere capillary attraction. The bladder or skin will cease to act instantly, if a single drop of hydro-sulphate of ammonia be put in the liquid, or if the least putrefaction has taken place. The process has apparently some connection with, or aid from, electricity. Before the meeting closed, the liquid had been forced up in the tube about 6 inches; and this by the action of the bladder.

Dr. J. then said, that since he spoke there two years ago, many improvements have been made—many experiments tried—some good books and many indifferent ones had been published. While laboring in the country, he had found very many inquiring farmers—many who wanted the light which science can give them. Once, books upon farming were decried as unsafe guides—and this not entirely without reason. The data in them were limited—the conclusions not always sound. But recently some improvements have been made—many scientific men in Europe have been at work upon Agricultural Chemistry—many practical men have been experimenting both there and in this country. He and others here, have been busy in the same cause. Science is yet to do much for agriculture.

Chemistry must tell us what our crops take from the soil and what from the atmosphere. The crops themselves must be analyzed. Science must tell us what change takes place in a barren soil when it becomes fertile; it must tell what kind of manure is best suited to each particular crop. It will ask if there is any one general compost, suited equally and well to all crops; it asks too, if mineral manures are of any value.

He would say something upon *mineral manures.* Some of these, the *soluble* ones generally, are indispensable to vegetable growth and health. The coating of cane, corn-stalks, straw, &c., always contains silica, or the matter of fine sand and of flint. This silica *alone* is insoluble and will not act; but it is dissolved by potash and combines with it, and enters into the plant in the form of silicate of potash. It is this which gives strength and firmness to the plant and its vessels. It is this which holds up the wheat and keeps it from lodging. Where this is abundant the wheat will generally stand; but where there is a large quantity of vegetable and animal manure, the stalks are soft and the grain lodges or falls. To get a good crop and have it stand, you must have much silicate of potash to strengthen the fibre.

The quantity of this silicate of potash required by the different plants, is very variable; plants of the same kind *do*, according to the soil on which they grow, take it up in very different proportions. Mr Levi Bartlett, of Warner, N. H., has learned and shown that *grasses*, even, may have too much of this, so as to become hard and wiry. Where silex and potash come together in equal weights, the silex is soluble in water.

A soil that has been tilled a long time, is liable to be deprived, in a great measure, of its *soluble* silex. Here, ashes is the best restorative.

Alumina, which makes a part of clay, enters very sparingly *into plants;* but the clay retains water and gives tenacity to the soil. Burnt or baked clay is a very valuable manure: the benefit of burning is in consequence of the silicates in the clay being rendered soluble by the action of the fire.

Magnesia. This has been abused: in a pure state it may be injurious to vegetation; but when oxidized, it is good, and it enters in some form, into most plants;—phosphate of magnesia is in all the grains; but magnesia should be used in compost, if at all; for when applied alone, it makes a cement. In compost with peat, it is valuable.

The proper management of lime is a delicate operation. Rightly used, it is valuable: in compost *properly applied*, Dr. J. never knew it to fail of doing good. It is to the farmer the most valuable of all the mineral manures, because it can always and in almost all places be obtained. But this should not be put in stable dung and animal manures: there it would decompose and weaken; but it should be used in compost.

A gentleman in Rhode Island was advised to put one load of night soil to six of peat. Thus mixed, the night soil remained unchanged; but upon putting a cask of fresh dry slaked lime to a cord, the night-soil soon lost its offensive smell, and the heap became throughout most excellent manure, and this in a few days.

In much of the peat there exist alum and copperas;—here lime is a good top-dressing upon the peat meadow. It forms, with the matters in the peat, a sulphate of of lime—this is plaster.

Potash and soda are efficient and valuable alkalies, but they are too expensive for general use. In compost they are good, but when applied in solution—that is, when dissolved in water and sprinkled upon the soil, they are sometimes found inert.

Nitrate of potash, or saltpetre, and nitrate of soda, are good in many places, and for some crops. Squashes, pumpkins, melons, &c., contain them; and this is the reason why vines do so well where a barn has once stood. These articles may be spread upon the surface of the soil in small quantities. Should you put a small lump or crystal of nitre by a hill of corn, that spot will always be wet; and this might be a good way of applying it.

Iron is found in many trees and in grains. Taken into the animal system in the grains, the iron makes the real globules of blood.

[Here Dr. Jackson showed several drawings of Indian corn, or sections of kernels of corn, showing that a coating or thin sheet around the germ, is iron. In the southern corn, the central and upper part is all starch, while the sides, or the hard flinty part, contains *oil*. The Tuscarora contains no oil, and will not pop. The small flinty corns pop well because the oil extends all around them. The examination of these corns he has made in connection with Mr Hayes, who is one of the best chemists in the Commonwealth. The Tuscarora corn, as it contains no oil, is not so good for fattening as others, but it cooks the more readily for being without oil, and is good for puddings, &c.]

The best manures for corn are those that are full of ammonia—as the dung of animals, flesh, &c. An experiment of his own had shown that water in which carbonate of ammonia had been dissolved, gave vigorous growth to corn. Corn requires less lime than wheat.

Manganese is found in the ashes of many plants; and it is abundant in most peats, and these peats are vegetable products.

Bones are good for many soils—they are among the best manures, where the soil is wanting in phosphate of lime; but where this abounds, they are of no value—as is the case at Mr Cushing's, in Watertown.

Gypsum is a valuable mineral manure in the interior, but near the sea-coast, the salt spray is supposed to have the same action, and to render the plaster inert. In the interior of France, it is found that 300 pounds of salt are as valuable as *one ton* of plaster. (We are apprehensive that there was a slip of the tongue here, but perhaps not.—*Rep.*) Gypsum acts unequally upon the different soils in the interior, and this is unfavorable to Liebig's theory, that plaster acts principally by absorbing ammonia from the atmosphere.

Ashes are very good, generally, on light soils; and here leached ashes are as good as any. He had supposed that repeated ashing will exhaust the soil of its vegetable matters; and yet it has been proved that on Mr Anthony's sandy lands, in Rhode Island, the vegetable matters increase under the operations of ashing and cropping.

The value of any manure is in direct proportion to the nitrogen it contains—or that which makes ammonia. The best manures, or strongest, therefore, are flesh, urine, dung, &c. Guano, the dung of sea-birds, brought from S. America, is exceedingly powerful: in *small* quantities it produces wonderful effects.

Mr Teschemacher read an account of a wonderful discovery in Germany, of a mode of *preparing seed*, so as to dispense with the use of all manures, and yet get most luxuriant crops of every kind. We wait for more light.

The same subject will be resumed at the next meeting.

Profitable Cow.—One of the cows at the State Lunatic Hospital, has given this year, one thousand and thirteen gallons of milk. The account has been kept by the farmer of the establishment, Capt. Chaffin. One other cow is estimated to have done as well, and a third has fallen but little short of the other two. The cows are of common breeds, purchased of farmers in this town. The milk of the one cow at four cents a quart, would be worth $162 08. The keeping cost about $75.—*Worcester Spy.*

A Good Thing.—"Every fly, and every pebble, and every flower, are tutors in the great school of nature, to instruct the mind and improve the heart.

"Every man has in his own life follies enough—in his own mind, troubles enough—in the performance of his duties, deficiencies enough—in his fortune, evils enough—without being curious about the affairs of others."

Facts.—Musty grain is made sweet by putting it in boiling water, (double the quantity of the grain,) letting it cool in the water, (skimming before pouring off,) and then letting it dry well

Plowing heavy soils when wet, does more injury than if the team were standing idle.

All grain fields seeded to grass, should be rolled.—*Phila. Museum.*

THERMOMETRICAL

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Gardenof the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, for the week ending Feb. 26.

Feb. 1843.	7,A.M.	12, M.	5,P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 20	24	40	32	N.
Tuesday, 21	20	25	22	N.
Wednesday, 22	18	40	30	E.
Thursday, 23	18	17	16	N. W.
Friday, 24	6	20	18	N. W.
Saturday, 25	10	29	28	N. E.
Sunday, 26	27	36	28	N. W.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Feb. 27, 1843.

Reported for the Daily Advertiser.

At Market 440 Beef Cattle, 750 Sheep, and 160 Swine. 40 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—We quote to correspond with last week: about the same prices were obtained for a like quality, viz: A few extra, $5. First quality, $4 50 a 4 75. Second quality, $4 00 a 4 25. Third quality, $3 50 a 4 00.

Cows and Calves.—Very few sales.

Sheep.—Sales were made at prices from $2 50, to 4 75.

Swine.—No lots were sold to peddle. A few were retailed from 4 1-2 to 5 1-2 and a few small shoats at 6 cts.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 25 to 2 50 per bushel. Red Top, 40 to 50 cents. Clover—Northern, 10 to 11c.—Southern, 0 a 10 c. Flax Seed, $1 75 per bushel. Lucerne, 30 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 50 per bushel.

GRAIN. Duty, Corn, Rye and Beans, free; Barley 20 per cent.; Oats 20 per cent.

There have been no arrivals of any importance during the past week, and prices in consequence, are fully supported for prime qualities mealing corn.

Corn—Northern, old, bushel 00 to 00—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 53 a 54—do. do. white 50 a 51 —do New Orleans, 48 a 52—Barley 00 a — —Rye, Northern, 58 a 60—do. Southern, 00 a 55—Oats, Southern, 29 a 31—Northern do. 31 to 33—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. — a —Bran, — a—.

FLOUR. The speculative movements in New York produced quite an excitement among the dealers here, causing prices to go up 25 a 37c.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 25 a 4 37 —do. wharf, $0 00 a 4 12 do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 4 25 —Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 12½ a 0 00 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $4 12½ a 0 00—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 4 12 a 0 00 —Georgetown, $4 37 a 4 50—Richmond Canal, $0 00 a 4 25 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 0 00 —do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 75 a 4 87— do fancy brands $4 87 a 5 00 — Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 37 a 4 50. Rye, $3 75 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 87 a 3 00.

PROVISIONS.—There has been a good call for most articles under this head, with indications for an increased business with the interior.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $7 75 a 8 00—Navy—$7 00 a 7 25.—No. 1, 6 00 a 6 25—do Prime $4 25 a 4 50—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $11 00 a 00 00—do Clear $10 50 a 00 00 do. Mess, 8 50 a 9 00—do Prime $6 00 a 6 50—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 a 0 00— —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00— Butter, shipping, 9 a 11—do store, uninspected, 8 a 10—do dairy, 10 a 13,—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 6½ a 7 — do South and Western, 6 — a 7 —. Hams, Boston, 7 a 0 — Southern and Western, 0 a 0—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 4 a 5—do new milk, 7 a 8.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, free. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 30 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

Sales of fleece wool to a moderate extent, have been made at quotations.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 35 a 40 c.—American full blood, do 32 a 33—Do. 3-4 do 22 a 00—Do. 1-2 do 28 a 30 -1-4 and common do 25 a 27 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 23— Do. unwashed, 10 a 13—Bengasi do 8 a 10—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 12 a 16—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 26 a 30—No. 1 do. do. do. 23 a 25—No. 2 do do do 15 a 20—No. 3 do do do 12 a 15.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1842, lb. 9 a 9 1-2. 2d do. do. do. 7 a 7 1-2.

HAY, per ton, $14 50 to 15 00—Eastern Screwed $12 to 13

CHEESE—Shipping and 4 meal, 6 to 8c.—New 9 to 11.

EGGS, 16 a 18.

SCIONS! SCIONS!

The subscriber is now enabled to supply Scions of the very best varieties of *Pear, Apple, Plum,* and *Cherry.*

Having a very large number of specimen Fruit Trees in his Gardens, from which fruits have been gathered, is a surety that the Scions can be relied on as *genuine.*

Communications upon the subject relative to the varieties and qualities, or to quantity and price, directed to the subscriber will be promptly responded to and orders executed with dispatch.

Large quantities will be furnished at reduced rates.

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

Nonantum Vale, Brighton, Feb. 13th, 1843.

WANTED,

A man and his wife to take charge of a Farm near Boston. Those without children would be preferred. Apply at this office. Feb. 22.

POUDRETTE AS A MANURE.

This valuable fertilizer has been extensively used during the past five years in the vicinity of New York. One farmer on Long Island has used more than 3500 bushels, another over 1900 bushels and several others more than a 1000 bushels each, with entire success, manufactured by the *New York Poudrette Company.* The subscriber was the first American who undertook the business in this country, and he has manufactured it in *larger* quantities than any, probably than *all,* others who have attempted the manufacture. Of the *quality* he leaves others, who use it, to judge—relying upon his experience and knowledge of the business, and his *interest* in furnishing a good article for customers.

☞ Present price $1 50 per barrel for ten or more barrels, or $5 for three barrels delivered on board of vessel. Orders by mail, enclosing the cash, promptly attended to, and pamphlets with *directions* sent to those who desire them, on applying to D. K. MINOR, agent 118 Nassau st., New York.

Feb. 15. 6w

HARRIS' TREATISE ON INSECTS.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., Harris' Treatise on Insects. Price $2. Also, the second edition of Dana's Muck Manual, price 62½ cts. Feb 15.

10,000 PEAR STOCKS.

The subscribers offer for sale 10,000 Pear Stock of American growth in first rate order, and much superior to those imported. For two feet Stock $3 00 per hundred.

One and a half do. do. 2 50 do.

Feb. 15. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDENER.

A young man who has served his apprenticeship in Europe, who understands Nursery, Flower, and kitchen Gardening and forcing in all its various branches, and who has had four years experience in this country, wishes a situation in any private or public establishment. Can furnish the best reference.

A line addressed to J. S. at this office, will command immediate attention. Feb. 15.

WILLIS'S LATEST IMPROVED VEGETABLE CUTTER.

This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., Nos. 51 and 52 North Market st.

SEED BEANS.

The subscribers will pay cash for the following Beans, viz: China Dwarf, Dwarf Caseknife, Horticultural, Early Mohawk, and Thousand to One. They must be clean and pure

J. BRECK & CO. 51 and 52 North Market st. Boston

Oct. 12.

POUDRETTE! POUDRETTE!!

The subscribers keep constantly on hand, and for sale, Poudrette in quantities to suit purchasers; packed in Barrels in order for shipping, or transportation by wagon or Rail Road.

The experience of five years past has satisfied many farmers, that this manure has the quickest operation upon vegetable matter, producing greater abundance, and is the cheapest manure they have ever tried.

Orders left at the New England Seed Store, and at the factory in Brookline, will meet with prompt attention.

For sale by J. BRECK & CO, 51 and 52 North Market st., Boston. Oct. 26.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, is found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

SILK BUSINESS.

Silk Worm Eggs, Pea nuts, and Sulphurs, at $3 50 per ounce.

Mulberry Trees. Cantons and Multicaulis at $60 per thousand delivered in Boston, by J. R. BARBOUR.

Oxford, Jan. 25, 1843. } Feb. 1.
Near Depot on N. and W. R. Road. }

WANTS A SITUATION AS GARDENER.

An experienced gardener, well acquainted with the various branches of the business, and who can procure satisfactory, testimonial, both from his late employer and the most celebrated and practical gardeners in this part of the country, wants a situation. Address D. C., at the office of the N. E. Farmer. Boston, Feb. 1, 1843.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* begin with Mr. Howard's."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough, sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

April 20

MUCK MANUAL.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., The Muck Manual for Farmers. By Dr S. L. Dana; price $1.

Boston, April 13.

LACTOMETERS—a simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale by J. BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HOPE.

BY SCHILLER.

We speak with the lip, and we dream in the soul,
Of some better and fairer day;
And our days, the meanwhile, to that golden goal
Are gliding and sliding away.
Now the world becomes old, now again it is young—
But "*The Better*" 's forever the word on the tongue.

At the threshold of life Hope leads us in—
Hope plays round the mirthful boy;
Though the best of its charms may with youth begin,
Yet for age it reserves its toy.
When we sink at the grave, why, the grave has scope,
And over the coffin, man planteth—HOPE!

And it is not a dream of a fancy proud,
With a fool for its dull begetter;
There 's a voice *at the heart* that proclaims aloud,
"Ye were born to possess The Better!"
And that voice of the heart, O ye may believe,
Will never the hope of the soul deceive!

The Dead Alive.—Some hypocondriacs have fancied themselves miserably afflicted in one way, and some in another: some have insisted that they were tea-pots, and some that they were town-clocks; one that he was extremely ill, and another that he was actually dying. But perhaps none of this unfortunate class ever matched in the *ultraism* of their whims, a patient of the late Dr. Stevenson, of Baltimore.

This hypochondriac, after ringing the change of every mad conceit that ever tormented a crazy brain, would have it, at last, that he was dead—actually dead. Dr. Stevenson having been sent for one morning in great haste, by the wife of his patient, he hastened to the house, and found him stretched out at full length in bed, his hands across his breast, his eyes and mouth closely shut, and his looks cadaverous.

"Well, sir, how do you do?—how do you do, this morning?" asked Dr. Stevenson, in a jocular way. "How do I do!" replied the hypochondriac, faintly: "a pretty question to ask a dead man." "Dead!" replied the doctor. "Yes, sir, dead—quite dead. I died last night about twelve o'clock."

Dr. Stevenson, putting his hand gently on the forehead of the hypochondriac, as if to ascertain whether it was cold, and also feeling his pulse, exclaimed in a doleful tone, "Yes, the poor man is dead enough—'t is all over with him, and now the sooner he can be buried the better." Then stepping up to his wife, and whispering to her not to be frightened at the measures he was about to take, he says aloud to the servant, "My boy, your poor master is dead, and the sooner he can be put in the ground the better. Run to C——m's, for I know he always keeps ready made coffins by him; and, do you hear, bring a coffin of the largest size, for your master makes a stout corpse, and having died last night, and the weather being warm, he will not keep long."

Away went the servant, and soon returned with a proper coffin. The wife and family having got their lesson from the doctor, gathered round him, and howled not a little, while they were putting the body in the coffin. Presently, the pall-bearers, who were quickly provided, and let into the secret, started with the hypochondriac for the church-yard. They had not gone far before they were met by one of the town's people, who having been properly drilled by Stevenson, cried out, "Ah, doctor, what poor soul have you got there?"

"Poor Mr B——," sighed the doctor, "left us last night."

"Great pity he had not left us twenty years ago," replied the other; "he was a bad man."

Presently another of the townsmen met them with the same question, "And what poor soul have you got there, doctor?"

"Poor Mr B——," answered the doctor.

"Ah! indeed," said the other; "and so he is gone to meet his deserts at last."

"Oh you villain!" exclaimed the man in the coffin.

Soon after this, while the pall-bearers were resting themselves near the church-yard, another man stepped up with the old question again, "What poor soul have you got there, doctor?"

"Poor Mr B——," he replied, "is gone."

"Yes, and to the bottomless pit," said the other; "for if he has not gone there, I see not what use there is for such a place."

Here the dead man, bursting off the lid of the coffin, which had been purposely left loose, leaped out, exclaiming, "Oh you villain! I am gone to the bottomless pit, am I? Well, I am come back again to pay such ungrateful rascals as you are."

A chase was immediately commenced, by the dead man after the living, to the great amusement of the witnesses of the laughable spectacle. After having excercised himself into a copious perspiration, by the fantastic race, the hypochondriac was brought home by Dr. Stevenson, freed from all his complaints; and by strengthening food, cheerful company, and moderate exercise, was soon restored to perfect health.—*Humorist's Own Book.*

Three Horses and One Husband.—A reverend minister of the kirk of Scotland, sympathized deeply with one of his parishioners, who, in the course of a few weeks, was reduced to poverty by the death of three horses; and, to add to the trial, her husband took ill and died. The minister wrote a petition for her, soliciting contributions for her relief, as follows:—"The bearer, widow ——, has met with a severe loss by the death of three horses and one husband, making in all four, since May; and on that account I would recommend her to your support."—*Selected.*

A Dirty Witness.—A German witness in the course of a strict cross examination on a trial during the Oxford Circuit, was asked to state the exact age of the defendant. "Dirty," (thirty) was the reply. "And pray, sir, are you his senior, and by how many years?" "Why, sir, I am *dirty-two.*"

Natural Lamp.—The Pittsburg Chronicle says that in Cincinnati they light the streets by setting fire to pigs' tails, and then giving the animals the freedom of the city. When this natural lamp is burnt out, the pigs are found to be first rate bacon.—*Nantucket Inq.*

A person bragging of the many places he had visited, one of the company asked him if he had ever been in Linkumpoop. He, taking it for the name of a city, said, "We saw it at a distance, but as we went post, we could not visit it."

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS, &c.

The Proprietors of the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store No. 51 and 52 North Market street, would inform their customers and the public generally that they have on hand the most extensive assortment of Agricultural and Horticultural Tools to be found in the United States. Part of which are the following:

1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs.	100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels.
300 Common do. do.	150 " Common do.
200 Cultivators.	100 " Spades.
100 Greene's Straw Cutters.	500 " Grass Scythes.
50 Willis' do. do.	300 " Patent Snaiths.
100 Common do. do.	200 " Common do.
100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers.	500 " Hay Rakes.
50 Common do do.	200 " Garden do.
200 Willis' Seed Sowers.	200 " Manure Forks.
50 " Vegetable Cutters	300 " Hay do.
50 Common do. do.	500 Pair Trace Chains.
200 Hand Corn Mills.	100 " Truck do.
200 Grain Cradles.	100 Draft do.
100 Ox Yokes.	500 Tie up do.
1500 Doz. Scythe Stones.	50 doz. Halter do.
3000 " Austin's Rifles.	1000 yards Fence do.
March 17.	25 Grind Stones on rollers.

FENCE CHAINS.

Just received from England, 10,000 feet Chains, suitable for Fences or other purposes. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st. April 21

TYE UP CHAINS.

Just received by 500 Chains for tyeing up Cattle.

These chains, introduced by E. H. DERBY, Esq. of Salem, and Col. JACUES, for the purpose of securing cattle to the stall, are found te be the safest and most convenient mode of fastening cows and oxen to the stanchion.

For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

DRAFT AND TRACE CHAINS.

400 pair Trace Chains, suitable for Ploughing.
200 " Truck and leading Chains.
200 " Draft Chains. For sale by J. BRECK & CO., No. 52 North Market st.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within thirty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS.